

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method comprising:
obtaining ~~backup job information~~ regarding a future backup from one or more backup applications for a plurality of backup jobs;
calculating a ~~required projected~~ number of ~~scratch media needed for one or more future executions~~ a future execution of at least one of the backup jobs using the ~~backup job information~~ regarding the future backup, said calculating also comprising, ~~for at least one of the future executions~~, dividing an average historical backup size of the backup job by an average capacity of a media type associated with the backup job; and
presenting the ~~required projected~~ number of ~~scratch media~~ to a user.
2. (Cancelled).
3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein obtaining the backup job information regarding the future backup ~~comprises further comprises~~ obtaining information for one or more backup devices, each backup device associated with at least one of the backup jobs.
4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3, wherein presenting the ~~required projected~~ number of ~~scratch media~~ comprises presenting the projected number of ~~scratch media required for each of the backup devices~~.
5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein obtaining the backup job information regarding the future backup ~~comprises further comprises~~

obtaining information for one or more media pools, each media pool associated with at least one of the backup jobs.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein calculating comprises, for each media pool:

determining an existing number of ~~scratch~~ media in the media pool;
calculating the projected number of ~~scratch~~ media ~~needed~~ for the future
~~executions~~ execution using the media pool; and
subtracting the existing number from the ~~required~~ projected number.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6, wherein determining **[[an]]** ~~the~~ existing number further comprises determining if a protected period for one or more existing data media has expired.

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein presenting the ~~required~~ projected number of ~~scratch~~ media further comprises presenting the projected number of ~~scratch~~ media ~~required~~ for each of the media pools.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein calculating further comprises using the media pool information to analyze historical usage of the media pools.

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim 5, further comprising presenting a report to the user identifying at least one media pool having a greater amount of ~~scratch~~ media than the ~~required~~ projected number of ~~scratch~~ media for the at least one media pool.

11. (Cancelled).

12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
wherein obtaining the backup-job-information regarding the future backup
~~comprises-further comprises obtaining~~ information for one or more
media pools, each media pool associated with the backup jobs;
and; and
wherein calculating the required-projected number of scratch-media
further comprises totaling the projected number of media ~~required~~
for each media pool to be used by the future ~~executions~~execution.
13. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
wherein the obtaining the backup-job-information regarding the future
backup comprises-further comprises obtaining information for one
or more backup devices associated with the backup jobs;and; and
wherein calculating the required-projected number of scratch-media
further comprises totaling the projected number of media ~~required~~
for each backup device to be used by the future
~~executions~~execution.
14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein calculating further
comprises calculating the projected number of ~~scratch-media required~~ for the
future ~~executions~~execution of the backup jobs scheduled within a
predetermined period of time.
15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving
from the user a list of one or more media to be used ~~for at least a portion of the~~
~~required-scratch-media~~.
16. (Currently amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising for
each media in the list, determining if the media is a valid ~~scratch-media~~.

17. (Currently amended) A system comprising:

- | an integration agent configured to receive backup job information for a plurality of backup jobs from one or more backup applications, wherein the backup job information includes an average historical backup size for one or more of the backup jobs;
- | a planner configured to calculate a ~~required-number of scratch-media needed for one or more future executions~~ a future execution of at least one of the backup jobs using the backup job information, the ~~required-number of scratch-media needed for at least one of the future executions~~ execution being calculated by said planner by dividing the average historical backup size of the backup job by an average capacity of a media type associated with the backup job; and
- | a user interface configured to present the ~~required-number of scratch-media~~ to a user.

18. (Currently amended) The system of claim 17, wherein the backup job information comprises information for one or more backup devices, each backup device associated with at least one of the backup jobs and said user interface is further to present the ~~required-number of scratch-media required for~~ each of the backup devices.

19. (Currently amended) The system of claim 17, wherein the backup job information includes information for one or more media pools, each media pool associated with at least one of the backup jobs and said user interface is further to present the number of ~~scratch-media required for~~ each of the media pools.

20. (Cancelled).

21. (Currently amended) The system of claim 17, wherein said user interface is further configured to receive a list of one or more media to be used for at least a portion of the ~~required scratch~~ media.

22. (Currently amended) The system of claim 21, wherein for each media in the list, said planner is further configured to determine whether the media is a valid ~~scratch~~ media.

23. (Currently amended) ~~At least one~~ A machine-readable medium having stored thereon sequences of instructions, which, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to ~~perform the actions of:~~

~~obtaining~~ obtain backup job information from one or more backup applications for a plurality of backup jobs;

~~calculating~~ calculate a ~~required~~ proposed number of ~~scratch~~ media ~~needed~~ for one or more future executions of at least one of the backup jobs using the backup job information; and

~~presenting~~ present the ~~required~~ proposed number of ~~scratch~~ media to a user, wherein instructions for calculating the ~~required~~ proposed number of scratch media comprise instructions, which, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to ~~perform the action of,~~ for each backup job, ~~dividing~~ divide an average historical backup size by an average capacity of a media type associated with the backup job.

24. (Currently amended) The medium of claim 23, wherein when the machine presents ~~the instructions for presenting the required~~ proposed number of ~~scratch~~ media the instructions cause the machine to ~~comprise instructions, which, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to perform the actions of presenting~~ present the proposed number of ~~scratch~~ media ~~required~~ for one or more backup devices, each of the backup devices associated with at least one of the backup jobs.

25. (Currently amended) The medium of claim 23, wherein when the machine presents ~~the instructions for presenting the required proposed~~ number of scratch media ~~comprise instructions, which, when executed by the machine, cause the~~ the instructions cause the machine to perform ~~the actions of presenting~~ present the proposed number of scratch media ~~required~~ for one or more media pools, each media pool associated with at least one of the backup jobs.

26. (Cancelled).